

FACT SHEET



***Tyson Valley (ex) Army Powder Storage Farm
St. Louis, Missouri***

May 2001

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 will be sampling surface water, ground water, sediment, and soil at the Tyson Valley (ex) Army Powder Storage Farm site, as part of an Expanded Site Investigation (ESI). Tyson is a former Department of Defense (DOD) facility developed first for the storage of wartime supplies and the production of small arms ammunition, and later for their testing and disposal. The purpose of the ESI is to find source(s) of contamination, potentially the result of past DOD activities, and identify any additional contaminants at the site. The sampling will begin in the spring of 2001, and is expected to be completed by late summer 2001. The entire site consists of approximately 2,622 acres and is located approximately 25 miles southwest (on Highway 44) of St. Louis, Missouri near the city of Eureka in Saint Louis County.

SITE HISTORY

The Tyson Valley site property was owned and operated by the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945, and again from 1951 to 1961. During the Korean Conflict, the site was also used for temporary storage of artillery rounds and chemicals used in the manufacturing of armaments.

Storage of materials was done primarily to support the production of small arms ammunition at the nearby St. Louis Ordnance Plant, located on Goodfellow Boulevard in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1961, the Tyson property was declared surplus, but remained in the possession of the government until 1963. By 1964, the government deeded Tyson's land parcels to Washington University in St. Louis and to Saint Louis County.

CURRENT USE

Currently, the property is divided into three parcels which are owned and operated by Saint Louis County and Washington University. Saint Louis County owns and operates Lone Elk County Park and West Tyson County Park. Lone Elk County Park is a free-range wildlife park open to the public and contains diverse wildlife including bison, elk, deer, and many types of birds. West Tyson County Park is open to the public for picnicking and hiking.

Washington University owns and operates the Tyson Research Center, which is used as a research

and education center and nature preserve. The World Bird Sanctuary and Wild Canid

-2-

Survival and Research Center are also located on this property. Approximately 80 buildings and structures remain on the site, as a result of former DOD ownership. Most of these buildings are now used by Washington University for storage, as well as classrooms and library archives.

FIELD ACTIVITIES

EPA will be sampling for a full range of compounds including volatile organic compounds (vocs), semi-volatile organic compounds (svocs), and metals (including explosives) during the sampling events.

The sampling efforts will be conducted by EPA personnel and its contractor, TechLaw, Inc.

EPA will review the information from the field work and determine if further actions are warranted at the site.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need additional information about the Tyson Valley (ex) Army Powder Storage Farm site, please contact:

Debbie Kring
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 7
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
1-913-551-7003
Toll-free 1-800-223-0425
e-mail: kring.debbie@epa.gov

or

Diana Bailey
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA Region 7
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
1-913-551-7717
Toll-free 1-800-223-0425
e-mail: bailey.diana@epa.gov